

Sterne Kessler
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April 29, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 2823

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/753,664; Filed: January 4, 2001
For: **High Density Metal Capacitor Using Via Etched Stopping Layer as
Field Dielectric in Dual-Damascene Interconnect Process**

Inventor: Liming Tsau
Our Ref: 1875.0230000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R § 1.111 and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Jason D. Eisenberg
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 43,447

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SKGF DCI 1283891



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Liming Tsau

Appl. No. 09/753,664

Filed: January 4, 2001

For: **High Density Metal Capacitor Using
Via Etched Stopping Layer as Field
Dielectric in Dual-Damascence
Interconnect Process**

Confirmation No.: 1902

Art Unit: 2823

Examiner: K. Nguyen

Atty. Docket: 1875.0230000

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and in the Revised Format of the Pre-OG Notice Dated January 31, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated **March 14, 2003**, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 13), Applicant submits the following Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the format approved in the pre-OG Notice dated January 31, 2003, entitled, "Amendments In A Revised Format Now Permitted," and in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.